

February 3, 2011

Dear Connecticut Legislative Committee Members,

My name is Darcy Anderson-Abbott, I live in New Hartford Connecticut. I would like to thank you for your time and consideration concerning the matters at hand, and I ask that you vote in favor of House Bill 6249.

My concerns are the lack of regulations governing turbine wind power. I feel strongly that proper research and regard needs to be given to all parties that the turbines would affect and benefit. The residents, businesses, wildlife, landscapes, and resources in any community need be the focus of the regulations. I would hope that the regulation also take into consideration other existing and potential renewable energy opportunities. Haste makes waste. Our communities cannot afford to waste any of its current or future resources on a project of this proportion that is not adequately researched, regulated, and overseen.

I realize that we can not rely on regulations alone. I feel that communities need to be proactive and start thinking about what renewable energy sources would be viable and acceptable in their community. I would hope that the regulations include a process that requires the government of any community to be forthright in their communications with the community about any plans to consider hosting renewable energy sources prior to any approval or permit issuance.

I would be directly affected by any negative impact that the proposed turbines in Colebrook would have on Rock Hall, a historic residence now operating as a luxury bed and breakfast and located within less than half a mile from one proposed project and less than one and a half miles from another proposed project, because I work there. You see, I was laid off from the community college system in December of 2008 due to budgetary shortfalls. I currently attend the University of Connecticut in Torrington, where I took a student worker job in the IT department. This position lasted 2 semesters before the funding for that category of student workers was cut as well. As a result, I rely on my private sector position for financial sustenance. Any impact on that will impact me and my family.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Darcy Anderson-Abbott